

POLITICAL TRICKERY.

I regret to state that enemies of the school have been actively at work, ever since its organization, poisoning the minds of the colored people, in various parts of the State, against the school by asserting that it is a "Democratic school;" that it was established by the dominant party for the purpose of educating colored Democrats; that it is a "Nursery for colored Democrats," and that the students are trained and sent out as "Democratic Canvassers," &c., &c. In some cases, students, who wished to enter the school, have been warned of positive *bodily injury* to compel them to become Democrats. These stories, being circulated by politicians of the 'baser sort' have prevented or discouraged many from coming to the school, and, notwithstanding our reiterated statements that politics is not taught in the school, directly or indirectly; that every student is unbiased in his political opinions and free to vote as he chooses—the lies are still circulated and believed by the ignorant and the credulous.

The evident design of these slanderers is to prejudice the colored people against the efforts made by the 'party in power' for their education and improvement. The eastern section of the State, which should furnish the largest proportion of students for this school, has been specially prolific in these derogatory reports, consequently many young men are losing the benefits of a good school by listening to the silly tales of demagogues and pot-house politicians.

Now the real grievance of these men is that the school does *not* teach *their* politics. They would use it, if they could, as a *political machine* for furthering their party purposes.

On the other hand, the Managers of the school took the ground, in the outset, that "education is above politics, and while they control the school they decline to descend